## **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

In its many embodiments, the present invention provides a novel class of compounds as inhibitors of type 3 17 $\beta$ -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase, methods of preparing such compounds, pharmaceutical compositions containing one or more such compounds, methods of preparing pharmaceutical formulations comprising one or more such compounds, and methods of treatment, prevention, inhibition, or amelioration of one or more diseases associated with type 3 17 $\beta$ -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase using such compounds or pharmaceutical compositions.

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